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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515–4611 COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

SUBCOMMITTEES:

RANKING MEMBER, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
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SUBCOMMITTEES:

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations H-305, the Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth HOB Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for "W&OD Trail & Town of Vienna Initiative" in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Town of Vienna, located at 127 Center Street S, Vienna, VA 22180. The funding would be used for the project below.

Project: W&OD Trail & Town of Vienna Initiative

Recipient: Town of Vienna, 127 Center Street S, Vienna, VA 22180

Amount: \$1,000,000

Justification: This project is a collaboration with NOVA Parks to revise and improve assets along the W&OD Trail (within the Town's boundaries). The Town of Vienna is located at approximately the mid-point of the 45-mile W&OD Trail. This trail is one of the most popular rails-to-trails in the nation, with two to three million users per year. More specifically, this project would support the acquisition of property to build a welcome center, potentially expand the Town Green, and make improvements for the development of a safe dual trail network for bicyclists and pedestrians. The visitor center will provide restrooms, bike rentals, and food for trail users; serve as a platform for activities and events; and provide information about Vienna, other regional parks and more. The goal of creating a W&OD visitor center is part of the NOVA Parks 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. The project goal is to create a vibrant destination that supports the Town's economic development goals while providing a safe space for bicyclists and pedestrians to use the trail network which goes through the Town's commercial core and connects to other jurisdictions and commercial centers in the region.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Best Regards,

Gerald E. Connolly Member of Congress

11th District, Virginia